

Message Text

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43

ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 INR-07 IO-13 MED-02 NSAE-00 PA-01

DHA-02 SCA-01 OES-06 USIA-06 PRS-01 CIAE-00 AID-05

FDRE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 /059 W

----- 122448

P R 011155Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2650

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 2874

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMED, SU

SUBJECT: OUTBREAK OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SOUTHERN SUDAN

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM ACTING FONMIN AND FROM WHO AUTHORITIES HERE THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN OUTBREAK OF HIGHLY INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN MARIDI AND NZARA, BOTH OF WHICH LOCATED IN WESTERN EQUATORIA PROVINCE ALONG ZAIRE BORDER. DISEASE HAS NOT YET BEEN IDENTIFIED, BUT IT HAS KILLED AT LEAST TWENTY PEOPLE, INCLUDING TREATING DOCTOR. ONE VICTIM WAS FLOWN TO KHARTOUM WHERE HE DIED. DISEASE INVOLVES HEMMORRHAGING, VOMITING AND CONVULSIONS. IT HAS CHARACTERISTICS OF LASSA FEVER AND OF MARBURG FEVER, BUT IT MAY BE A TICK-BORNE DISEASE SUCH AS CONGO-FEVER.

2. CHARGE DISCUSSED EPIDEMIC WITH WHO CHIEF DR. RAFIC KHAN SEPT 30, AND DR. L.M. BOKHARI, CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR, WHO, KHARTOUM, FOLLOWED UP IN MEETING WITH CHARGE AND ADMIN OFFICER OCT 1. HE INFORMED US THAT WHO HAS SENT TEAM OF FOUR QUALIFIED MEDICAL INVESTIGATORS TO STUDY DISEASE.

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3. WHO HOPES TO BE ABLE TO SEND SPECIMEN SAMPLES OF

DISEASE TO COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CENTER,
ATLANTA FOR ANALYSIS. WHO MAY SEEK SPECIAL PACKING
ITEMS SO THAT SAMPLES CAN BE SENT SAFELY. DEPT MAY WISH
ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH WHO AUTHORITIES IN NEW YORK AND WITH
CDC IN ATLANTA AND TO ADVISE THEM OF INFO REPORTED
ABOVE. BOGOSIAN

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